

November 12, 2003

Teri Murrison
East Merced Resource Conservation District
14579 Avenida Central
La Grange, CA 95329
PIN #901

Dear Ms. Murrison:

I am writing regarding the grant proposal The Merced River Alliance project PIN #901 recently submitted to the State Water Resource Control Board by the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District.

The San Joaquin River Management Program, established by State Legislation AB 3603 in September 1990, provides a public forum to identify problems and solutions for wildlife, flood protection, water quality, water supply, fisheries, and recreation issues. In February 1995, SJRMP submitted to the legislature a river management plan that recommended or supported various projects or programs to address these issues.

Originally Project #901 was broken into 3 concept proposals, each receiving letters of consistency with SJRMP principles. The SJRMP Advisory Council was presented with a summary of the 3 original concept proposals at its June 25th meeting in Modesto, and had an opportunity to ask clarifying questions. Because these projects are in the same watershed and would benefit from shared coordination, the SWRCB asked to combine them into one proposal; Project #901. It is our understanding that the combined project is still consistent with SJRMP principles. The project is proposing a capacity-building and outreach, baseline biological monitoring, and bank management feasibility assessment and demonstration project. These activities are similar to projects or programs recommended in the 1995 plan and can advance water quality, wildlife, fisheries, and recreation improvements on the San Joaquin River.

Based on the June 25, 2003 presentation, the SJRMP Advisory Council has agreed that the proposed project is consistent with SJRMP's goals and adheres to the SJRMP principle that impacts resulting from these actions are acceptable to other interests.

If you have any questions, please contact Paula J. Landis at (559) 230-3310.

Sincerely,

Timothy Ramirez, Chair
San Joaquin River
Management Program
Advisory Council

Cc: DFA - Grants
Division of Financial Assistance
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Ms. Nancy McConnell and Ms. Holly Warner
Mariposa County Resource Conservation District
Post Office Box 746
Mariposa, California 95338